



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Docket No.: 13/082

Application of: Thibeault, D. et al

) Art Unit: 1633

Serial No.: 10/017,736

) Examiner: to be assigned

Filed : December 14, 2001

) Conf. No.: 8889

For : Purified Active HCV NS2/3 Protease

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

February 20, 2003

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TRANSMITTAL LETTER FOR INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

Transmitted herewith concerning the subject application is an Information Disclosure Statement under 37 C.F.R. §§1.56 and 1.97, together with a copy of the International Search Report, more specifically described hereinbelow.

1.97(b). This Statement is being filed: i) within three (3) months of the filing date of a national application other than a continued prosecution application under 33 C.F.R. §1.53 (d); ii) within three (3) months of the date of entry of the national stage as set forth in 37 C.F.R. §1.491 in an international application; iii) before the mailing of a first Office action on the merits; or iv) before the mailing of a first Office action after the filing of a request for continued examination under 37 C.F.R. §1.114.

1.97(c). This Statement is being filed after the time period specified in 37 C.F.R. §1.97(b), but before the mailing date of: i) a final action under 37 C.F.R. §1.113, ii) a notice of allowance under 37 C.F.R. §1.311, or iii) an action that otherwise closes prosecution in the application. This Statement is being accompanied by:

A statement as specified in 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e) [see below]; or

The fee set forth in 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p).

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge payment of the \$180.00 fee set forth in 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p) to Deposit Account No. 02-2955.

1.97(d). This Statement is being filed after the period specified in 37 C.F.R. §1.97(c) but on or before payment of the issue fee. This Statement is accompanied by a statement as specified in 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e) [see below] and the fee set forth in 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p).

1.97(e).

Each item of information contained in the instant information disclosure statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three (3) months prior to the filing of the instant information disclosure statement; or

No item of information contained in the instant information disclosure statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and, to the knowledge of the person signing this certification after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in the instant information disclosure statement was known to any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. §1.56(c) more than three (3) months prior to the filing of the instant information disclosure statement.

The fee set forth in 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p).

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge payment of the \$180.00 fee set forth in 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p) to Deposit Account No. 02-2955.

1.704(d). Each item of information contained in the accompanying information disclosure statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart application, which communication was not received by any individual designated in section 1.56(c) more than thirty (30) days prior to the filing of the accompanying information disclosure statement.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge payment of any additional filing fees required under 37 C.F.R. §1.16 and any patent application processing fees under 37 C.F.R. §1.17, or credit any overpayment of same, to Deposit Account No. 02-2955.

Triplicate copies of this form are enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to:
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on February 20, 2003
<i>Susan K. Pocchiari</i>
By: Susan K. Pocchiari
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